



On September 27 Verkhovna Rada Apparatus in collaboration with PDP II and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy held a final seminar on "Experience of the Work of Parliaments in Eastern Europe and the CIS", where Apparatus staff present the results of study visits to the parliaments of other countries that have been made in 2011-2012 with the support of PDP II and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy.

The event was attended by leadership of the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada, Committees' Secretariat and departments staff of the VR.

Study visits to the parliaments of the countries of Eastern Europe and the CIS, which was supported by PDP II, was carried out in the contest which started with PDP II and VR Apparatus as part of activities on the development of professional and organizational capacity of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. As the result of competition the separate initiatives of the employees of the secretariats of parliamentary committees and departments that focused on their professional growth and achieve more effective results of the activity of such departments and secretariats were supported. Among these initiatives, in particular, were introductory working visits to the related parliamentary units of the parliaments of Eastern Europe and the CIS, which were made by the staff of the committees Secretariat and departments of the VR in 2010-2012. The winners, who made study visits in 2010, presented the results of their study visits and relevant proposals on optimization of the work of structural divisions of the VR during the seminar on "Ways of Improving the Work of the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine - the Priority Steps" held by Parliamentary Committee on Rules of Parliamentary Procedure, Ethics and Support to Work of The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on November 23, 2010.

It is expected that the participants in the contest will inculcate positive experience gained during study visits in the activities of the relevant department of the VR Apparatus or the Secretariats

of the Committees.